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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A mechanical dishwashing composition and related method are provided wherein the composition includes an anti-scaling polymer formed mostly from an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer in combination with a minor amount of at least one copolymerizable sulfonated monomer or copolymerizable nonionic monomer, and a vehicle releasing at least an effective amount of the polymer into a penultimate rinse of a dishwashing cycle to prevent scaling. Most preferred is a composition and method releasing the anti-scaling polymer not only into the penultimate but also the final rinse cycle.